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SHEAFFER JEANNE M
78 MONTEVIDEO 1504

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FA-05 MCT-01 L-03 IO-13 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6394
SECRET MONTEVIDEO 1504
NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SEUM, UY

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS CASE OF RICARDO VILARO SANGUINETTI

REF: (A) STATE 92453 (B) HAGUE 2197

1. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. SUMMARY: GOU SECURITY
AUTHORITIES HAVE ATTRACTED INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION TO THEIR
RELEASE AND ALMOST IMMEDIATE REARREST OF POLITICAL PRISONER
RICARDO VILAO SANGUINETTI. WITH HIS REARREST, THE GOU
APPARENTLY RENEGED ON AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT,
WHICH WAS ONLY RECENTLY REAFFIRMED, AND WHICH WOULD HAVE
PERMITTED VILARO SANGUINETTI TO EMIGRATE TO HOLLAND IMMEDIATELY
AFTER HIS RELEASE TO JOIN HIS WIFE AND FAMILY THERE. THE
DUTCH GOVERNMENT WAS PERPLEXED ENOUGH TO SEND A FORMAL NOTE
TO THE GOU QUESTIONING THE ACTION. VILARO HAD BEEN DETAINED
SINCE 1973 FOR HIS ACTIVITIES IN THE URUGUAYAN LABOR MOVEMENT
AND IN THE GRUPOS DE ACCION UNIFICADOPA (GAU), A LEFTIST
POLITICAL ORGANIZATION. HIS RELEASE WAS ORDERED ON 28 MARCH
AND HE WAS RELEASED ON 7 APRIL, ONLY TO BE REARRESTED IN
CONNECTION WITH AN ALLEGEDLY GAU-INSPIRED 1973 BOMB INCIDENT.
IT IS REPORTED THAT VILARO SANGUINETTI WAS ALREADY
IN CUSTODY AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT, HOWEVER. OTHER MEMBERS
OF THE VILARO SANGUINETTI FAMILY HAVE RECENTLY BEEN HARASSED

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BECAUSE OF THEIR CONNECTION WITH THE GAU. END SUMMARY.

2. [REDACTED] AMEMBASSY CAN CONFIRM
THAT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIS RELEASE FROM PRISON ON APRIL 7,
HE WAS REARRESTED BY SECURITY FORCES OF THE URUGUAYAN NAVY
AND TAKEN TO FUSILEROS NAVALES, WHERE HE REMAINS. NAVAL
OFFICIALS HAVE STATED THAT HE IS BEING HELD IN CONNECTION WITH
A 1973 BOMB INCIDENT WHICH WAS ALLEGEDLY PLOTTED BY THE GAU
AND IN WHICH ONE PERSON, A GAU MEMBER, WAS KILLED. THE GAU
WAS A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION WITH THE AVOWED GOAL OF UNIFYING
LEFTIST SPLINTER GROUPS INTO A COHERENT FACTION OF THE FRENTE
AMPLIO. VILARO SANGUINETTI WAS A CHARTER MEMBER AND A HIGH
OFFICIAL OF THE GAU.

3. THERE IS WIDESPREAD INTEREST IN THIS CASE IN EUROPE,
ESPECIALLY IN HOLLAND WHERE VILARO SANGUINETTI'S WIFE AND
CHILDREN ARE LIVING AS POLITICAL REFUGEES. THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY L. M. [Signature] DATE 5/5/78

PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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Ch. 3 - [REDACTED]
Ch. 4 - [REDACTED]
Ch. 5 - [REDACTED]
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Reviewed by: [Signature]
Date: March 24,

EXCISE

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HAD DISCUSSED THE CASE WITH GOU OFFICIALS IN 1976 AND HAD BEEN ASSURED THAT, IF AND WHEN VILARO SANGUINETTI WAS RELEASED, THEY WOULD BE NOTIFIED AND HIS EMIGRATION TO HOLLAND WOULD BE PERMITTED. SHORTLY AFTER THE RELEASE ORDER WAS SIGNED, THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR WAS INFORMED BY A PHONE CALL FROM NAVY CINC ADMIRAL MARQUEZ. THE DUTCH AMBASSADOR NOTIFIED HIS GOVERNMENT WHICH, IN TURN, NOTIFIED VILARO SANGUINETTI'S FAMILY TO EXPECT HIS ARRIVAL. WHEN HE WAS REARRESTED, THE DUTCH SENT A FORMAL NOTE TO THE GOU EXPRESSING THEIR PERPLEXITY. THE BRITISH AND SWEDISH EMBASSIES ARE ALSO AWARE OF THIS CASE.

4. VILAO SANGUINETTI (AGE: ABOUT 39 YEARS) WAS A LEFTIST SCHOOLTEACHER AND A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERACION NACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES

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(CNT). HE WAS ARRESTED BRIEFLY IN 1971 FOR HIS GAU ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBLY FOR HIS UNION INVOLVEMENT. HE WAS REARRESTED ALONG WITH 25 OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GAU IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1973 (PROBABLY 10 SEPTEMBER) AFTER SURRENDERING HIMSELF TO THE POLICE, ON THE CHARGE OF "MEMBERSHIP IN A SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION". THE PROSECUTOR ASKED FOR A SENTENCE OF FIVE YEARS, OF WHICH FOUR HAVE ALREADY BEEN SERVED WITH NO FINAL VERDICT YET HANDED DOWN. ON THIS BASIS, VILARO SANGUINETTU PETITIONED FOR HIS RELEASE. ON 28 MARCH HIS RELEASE WAS SIGNED BY MILITARY JUDGE SILVA, WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF PROSECUTOR CHELONI AND SUPREME MILITARY TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT SILVA LEDESMA. ON 7 APRIL HE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM PUNTA CARRETAS PRISON WHERE HE HAD BEEN DETAINED, WAS OUT-PROCESSED AT A LOCAL PRECINCT HOUSE AND RELEASED, ONLY TO BE REARRESTED SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

5. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE VILARO SANGUINETTI FAMILY HAVE BEEN HARASSED. HIS BROTHER, GUSTAVO VILARO SANGUINETTI, WHO IS DIRECTOR OF THE MONTEVIDEO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WAS IMPRISONED FOR FOUR DAYS IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOVEMBER 1977 ARREST OF GUSTAVO LEOPOLDO VILARO NIETO, COUSIN OF THE SUBJECT, FOR GAU ACTIVITIES. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY WERE ALSO CONFINED BRIEFLY AT THAT TIME. UNCONFIRMED RUMORS INDICATE THAT VILARO NIETO WAS SERIOUSLY MISTREATED DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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